A. violaceus. Ch. violaceus, *Quoy, Voy. Astrol.* 73. f. 13, 16, 17, 20; not *Sow. Ill.* f. 133.

A. hastatus. Ch. hastatus, *Sow. C. Ill.* f. 127.

A. hirundiniformis. Ch. hirundiniformis, *Sow. C. Ill.* f. 148.

A. strigatus. Chitonellus latus, *Guild. Z. Journ.* v. 28. Chitonellus strigatus, *Sow. C. Ill.*

15. Chitonellus, *Lam.*

Chitonella, *Desh.* Cryptoconchus, "*Blainv.*," *Burrows.* Cryptoplax, *Blainv.* Chitoniscus, *Herrm.*

Body elongate, compressed, convex above; mantle covered with crowded spines; the exposed part of the front valves oblong, square, broad, often worn; of the hinder ones narrow, lanceolate; the plates of insertion large, produced in front, and scarcely notched on either side. The gills occupy the hinder third of the sides.

M. De Blainville inserts Lamarck's species of Chitonelli with the spiny Chitons in section D., and in section E. he redescribes them, from specimens in spirits in the British Museum.

Chitonellus lævis, *Lam.* Chiton vermiformis, *Blainv. D. S. N.* xxxvi. 553. Oscab. fascie, *Quoy, Voy. Astrol.* t. 73. f. 21, 29. Cryptoconchus larvæformis, "*Blainv.*," *Burrows, Elem. Conch.* 190. t. 28. f. 2, 4; *Wood, Cat.* t. 1. f. 40. Philippines.

Chitonellus striatus, *Lam.*; *Sow. Conch. Illust.* f. 62? Oscab. ocule, *Quoy, Voy. Astrol.* t. 73. f. 37, 38. Australia.

The fossil Chitons of the older strata described by Munster, more lately by Ryckholt, *Bull. Acad. Brux.* 1845, xii. 36. t. 1—4, appear to belong to a peculiar genus, which may be called *Gryphochiton*, most nearly allied to *Chitonellus*.

I have described some peculiarities in the development, disposition and structure of the valves of the Chitons in a paper which will be read at the Royal Society on the 16th of June next.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Notice of the capture of Sylvia Turdoides (*Meyer*) *in Britain.*

By John Hancock, Esq.

A male specimen of this fine Warbler was shot, three or four miles west of Newcastle, near to the village of Swalwell, by Mr. Thomas Robson of that place, on the 28th of last May. The attention of this gentleman, who is perfectly familiar with the song of all our summer visitants, was arrested by a note which he had not before heard; and after some search he succeeded in getting a sight of the bird. It was concealed in the thickest part of a garden hedge close to an extensive mill-dam, which is bordered with willows, reeds and other aquatic plants. It would scarcely leave its retreat, and when it did so never flew far, and always kept close to the herbage. Its habits resembled those of the Reed Fauvette, being continually in motion, occasionally hanging with the body downwards or clinging to the branches and stretching forwards to take its prey.

Its song was powerful, and resembled that of the Black Ougel, but was occasionally interrupted with the harsh craking note common to many of the Warblers, and at intervals it uttered a single shrill cry.

The specimen was very fat, and when opened the testicles were found to be much enlarged; the stomach contained small beetles and flies.

From the nature of the locality, from the time when captured, and from the enlarged state of the testicles, there can be little doubt that this bird was breeding in the neighbourhood: and I have some reason for believing that the nidification of this species has occurred in another part of England. I have had in my possession for nearly two years an egg taken by a friend of mine in Northamptonshire, which agrees in every respect with Thienemann's figure and description of the egg of *Sylvia Turdoides*; and now, since the capture of the bird in Britain, it is impossible to doubt that this egg belongs to that species. It would therefore appear probable that this delightful songster, the largest of the European Warblers, may be a regular summer visitant to our island. Notwithstanding its large size it might easily pass unnoticed, skulking as it does in the low herbage, and seldom exposing itself to view. Its song, too, by most would be taken for that of the Black Ougel; and even now it might have escaped detection had not the accurate ear and experienced eye of Mr. Robson been engaged in the pursuit.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, 15th July 1847.

On the habits of Cicada septendecim. By S. P. Hildreth, M.D.

It is now seventeen years since, in 1829, this curious insect appeared in this portion of Ohio. Its exit from the earth, where it had remained excluded from the light of day for so long a time, was looked for with considerable interest. They were first seen to come out of the ground on the 14th of May, 1846, ascend some bush, fence, or tree, cast off their exuviæ, and become a flying insect. They had been observed, near the surface, since the beginning of April, and were turned up by the plough, and dug out of the earth by hogs, which were very fond of them, as were also birds, domestic fowls and cats. At a brick-yard in Marietta, where the clay was dug from the side of a hill, under the remains of an old orchard of apple-trees, the workmen observed the cells of this insect in 1838, in the large masses of earth broken off from the side of the bank. In 1840 I visited the spot, collected several of the *Cicadæ* and preserved them in spirit. Their cells at that time were measured, and found to be a third less than in the seventeenth year. The cells are oval and very smooth within; they are two and a quarter inches long and three-fourths of an inch in diameter, being sufficiently large for the single Cicada, which inhabits it, to move and turn round. Thus they dwell for sixteen years and ten months secluded in a grotto of their own construction.

After the eggs of the female are deposited in the tender branches

* From Silliman's American Journal for March 1847.